

## PARKER HOUSE

The Parker House, 35 Allegheny Ave. is one of eight or nine Victorian houses that once stood on or near the intersection of Washington and Allegheny Aves. It is the last of four that clearly showed the influence of the Queen Anne style. With the recent demolition of five of these buildings and the alteration of two more, the Parker House may be seen as a survivor which provides an important visual link to the appearance of this neighborhood in the 19th C.

The exterior of the building has changed little and one can still see that it is a large frame dwelling with the irregular plan and massing common to the Queen Anne. It has a jerkin head roof covered with slate that compliments a textural arrangement of clapboards and shingles, as well as the juxtaposition of various shapes resulting from bay windows and other polygonal projections. Such details as the stained glass entrance or classical porch columns lend the building a genuine sense of elegance.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1449

MA61-0314495704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Parker House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

35 Allegheny Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

**PRESENT USE**

—AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert Parker

Telephone #: 823-1235

STREET & NUMBER

620 Wilton Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Courts Building

Liber #: 4476

Folio #: 587

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Summer, 1978</u>

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Exterior: The Parker house faces north and has a basic North-South longitudinal (front to back of lot) plan. It is two and one half stories with a porch on the North and extending half way around the west side. The windows are one over one and it has a swell-front (1st and 2nd story bay) which is bisected by the porch roof. There is a third bay on the west facade beyond the end of the porch. There is a shed roof dormer on the west roof. The back of the house has what appears to be closed in porches. They may have been open at one time. There are odd shaped windows in the south facade one square, one thin and long.

There are four noticeable brick piers, one at each corner, and a high stone foundation. There is lattice work under the porch and four doric columns supporting the porch roof. The siding is a 3" beveled edge.

The front door has a three section transom above and two sidelights. They are all stained leaded glass.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Interior-

Like the Lee-Lickle House and a couple of others in the neighborhood, the Parker House has a plan which can be seen as typical of the Queen Anne era. This is to say that it is asymmetrical and there is a definite attempt at breaking up space in an interesting and unusual manner.

There is a full basement with uncoursed stone walls that reflect the organic shape of the house (polygonal projections of the north and south sides). There are several brick piers in the cellar, two are chimney supports while two others act as direct supports to the "summer beam." This thick beam runs longitudinally down the approximate center of the room and transverse joists are lap joined to it. These have cross bracings fixed with wire nails. One window in the south wall and two in the east wall light the basement and there is a centrally located entrance in the south wall.

The main level is determined by a side hall and double parlor plan. The side hall occupies the east side of the building and contains the entrance and stairs. The entranceway is lighted by the colored glass of the sidelights and transom. The stairs are on the east wall and are lighted by a nearly square casement window that is also filled with stained leaded glass windows. These windows are primarily peach colored with pink floral patterns, green foliage, etc.

The steps are made decorative by natural wood forming a closed-string with turned balusters, support posts with pendants and an elaborate newel post. It is square with inset panels, dentils and embossed floral patterns.

The floors of the hall and other rooms are a blond color with darker inlays that appear to correspond to the channel moulding found on most of the windows and doors.

The north parlor is reached by a double door in the west wall of the hall. Its chief characteristic is the three sided polygonal projection on the north wall that is part of the swell-front. This room is connected to the south parlor by another double door. That room has probably been traditionally used as a dining area and it too has a polygonal wall on its west side.

There is a sun-porch on the south side of the dining room which by virtue of its floors and moldings is perceived to be original. It too is reached through double doors.

The kitchen occupies the southeast corner of the first floor along with its pantry. A south entrance has an unusual enclosure formed by the outside west wall of the pantry and the exterior east wall of the sun-porch. The pantry has built-in shelving and is lighted by a 1/1 casement window. The kitchen sink is porcelain and has a built-in drainboard.

Perhaps the most unusual feature of this plan is a "back" stairs to the second floor which is in reality centrally located in between the kitchen and hall and is just a few feet behind the main stairs. The two meet quickly at a short landing and ascend as one to the second level.

The second story reflects the layout of the first and contains three full bedrooms and a space corresponding to the entrance hall which is perceived to be a storage area. There is a bathroom but no original fixtures. The doors of these rooms are solid with five lateral panels and metal knobs with embossed decoration.

A single switch-back stair leads to the third level. It is lighted by a three-light casement window. Technically it may be a "finished attic" but knee-walls and trapezoidal ceilings give it the feeling of a  $\frac{1}{2}$  story. The rooms assume the odd shapes of the roof.

Two objects were noted while examining the building. One was a mission style porch swing stored in the basement the support of which is still in the ceiling of the porch. The second was a small water tank in the southeast corner of the third level (gravity flush?).

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE C. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## TITLE SEARCH for PARKER HOUSE

Liber 5194, Folio 552 April 30, 1971

Grantor: Executors of the Will of Samana M. Parker

Grantee: Joseph S. Parker ( $\frac{2}{3}$  interest)

"Beginning...on south side of Allegheny Ave....(adjoining Held property)...Westerly 35' to an iron pipe..."

Joseph S. Parker received other half from Margaret Navratil  
June 21, 1965.

Liber 4476, Folio 585 June 21, 1965

Grantor: Margaret Navratil

Grantee: Joseph S. Parker

Liber 1219, Folio 109 March 10, 1942

Grantor: Ida L. M. Held

Grantee: Joseph & Samana Parker

"being part of parcel described January 8, 1923."

Liber 567, Folio 344 January 8, 1923

Grantor: Louis W. Held

Grantee: Ida L. M. Held (widower)

Three lots...as described on plat of Jacob Wisners land (lot # 3  
on JWS 1/113) - not this parcel but in Towson

Liber 537, Folio 479 April 26, 1921

Grantor: H. Loose

Grantee: Fred Held

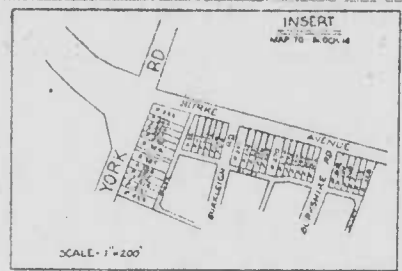
Liber 283, Folio 561 March 15, 1905

Grantor: Charles W. Disney

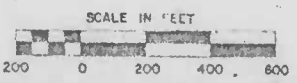
Grantee: H. Loose

Parker House

BA-1449



TOWSON  
SCALE 1"=200'



DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
TIA MAP 770001

MAP NO.  
70A

COPYRIGHT MAP DAVIDSON 1967  
MD DEPT OF ASSESS & TAX



BA-1449

PARKER HOUSE

N.W. CORNER

W. NIELD

WINTER 77-78



BA-1449

PARKER HOUSE  
DETAIL N. FACADE

W. NIELD  
WINTER 77-78



BA-1449

PARKER HOUSE

S. FACADE

W. NIELD

WINTER 77-78